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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

31 October 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Lieutenant General Eugene F. Tighe, Jr., USAF
Director, Defense Intelligence Agency

SUBJECT: Warning Improvement Study and Plan (WISP)

REFERENCE: Memo to the DCI from D/DIA, Same Subject,
dated 2 August 1977

1. I have just been brought into the memo [] sent me on 2 August concerning WISP. I'm sorry not to have responded sooner, but I heartily endorse the effort and direction that you are going here. I believe we need very much to focus our warning efforts better in Europe. My recent trip [] left me with the impression that we were not prepared to give the warning that we should, but that there is every capability extant for so doing.

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2. Separately, I have been told, perhaps incorrectly, that the WISP study is working from the assumption that adequate collection sources already exist and that the only job required now is to bring together in focus the analysis of the indicators that we have. I certainly hope this is not the case. It was my distinct impression from my visit that a number of our collection efforts are not being directed to the most useful indicators. In short, I think we need to improve collection as well as analysis of what is collected.

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3. I particularly think we should look at more than purely military warning indicators. I think we should look at signs of political unrest or economic malaise in East Germany or the Eastern Europe Bloc (which could in fact become the genesis of conflict rather than a predetermined deliberate attack). I think we should look for indicators of increased security with respect to the civilian population throughout the Eastern European countries, and other signs that aren't necessarily directly associated with military forces.

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4. The CIA will be happy to participate in this effort. With its participation, I hope there will be proper attention to the potential of human intelligence to contribute to the warning situation. I do not believe we should neglect it even though we have good technical systems. I also think we should look at what new technical innovations could be brought to bear.



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STANSFIELD TURNER

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